

## ABOUT A MEXICAN CROESUS

CHIHUAHUA, Mexico, Dec. 2.—If General Luis Terrazas of Chihuahua were to be asked how many cattle he owns he probably could not tell within one hundred thousand head of the exact number. He is the largest cattle, horse and mule owner in the world. He knows that he has grazing upon his several ranches something like three million head of cattle, five million head of horses, one million head of mules and one million head of sheep. These are approximate figures. His actual possessions of live stock may run a few hundred thousand above or below these estimates. General Terrazas or his ranch foremen do not undertake to give anything like the exact number of cattle, horses, mules and sheep which graze upon the Terrazas land.

Considerable attention was recently attracted in live stock circles of the United States by the sale of 75,000 head of sheep by General Terrazas to a Colorado man. On top of this came the announcement that General Terrazas had sold 20,000 head of cattle to American buyers. While these are large figures as live stock sales go in the United States, they are only an infinitesimal part of the vast possessions of General Terrazas.

The landed wealth of this modern Croesus aggregates about 25,000,000 acres. His total wealth is estimated at considerably more than \$300,000,000. His land and live stock holdings are not all of his wealth by any means. He owns rich mines, large manufacturing plants, banking institutions and is largely interested in railroads in Mexico. It has been said that two-thirds of the buildings in the city of Chihuahua, which has a population of 50,000 people, belong to General Terrazas. His revenue from rents is enormous.

An important feature of General Terrazas's vast business is his packing house plants, which are supplied with the cattle and other live stock from his own ranches. He has more than \$2,000,000 invested in these meat packing establishments. He supplies a large part of Mexico with fresh and canned meats. He manufactures many by-products in these establishments, and is enabled to utilize every particle of the product of his ranches. Another thing that entitles General Terrazas to distinction, aside from his great wealth and remarkable personal characteristics, is that he is the father-in-law of Enrique Creel, Mexican ambassador to the United States and constitutional governor of the state of Chihuahua. Mr. Creel is a multi-millionaire. He stands a good chance of being President of Mexico when Diaz retires from that office. He was a poor young man when he began paying court to General Terrazas's daughter. He was the sole support of a widowed mother and a family of younger children. General Terrazas recognized the worth of young Creel and interposed no objection to the courtship of his daughter. After his marriage into the noted family Mr. Creel never depended upon General Terrazas's wealth to boost him up in the financial world. He carved out his own fortune and has now reached a point where he is one of the wealthiest men in Mexico in his own right, and can well afford to enter politics. Mr. Creel is opposed to the rich owning vast tracts of land. He recently issued an order as governor of the state that in awarding public lands in the state to purchasers the authorities should give preference to the small purchaser. He urges that the large landed estates should be divided into small tracts and their agricultural and other resources developed to the greatest possible extent. This policy is directly opposed to that which has been followed by his father-in-law, but this fact is not deterring Mr. Creel from doing what he believes to be for the best interests of the state.

Gen. Terrazas owns fifteen ranches or haciendas, as they are called in this country. His principal ranches are San Felipe, San, Encarnación, Agua Nueva, Quinta Carolina, Torreon, San Lorenzo, La Nariz, San Miguel, Ancon del Rusia, Ayotlán, Hormigas and Corina. He has 20,000 men employed upon these ranches. Of this number 1000 are employed as fence-riders. Each man is provided with a fine saddle horse and other equipment for his duties. It was only two or three years ago that Gen. Terrazas began farming on a large scale. He grew many thousands of acres of alfalfa, sorghum and other forage this year. He has also begun raising hogs on a big scale. This new branch of the industry, however, is too small as yet to be worth while talking about. Fifty thousand head of hogs are not very many when compared with 5,000,000 head of horses. At the present rate of progress it will not be many more years until the number of hogs upon his farms and ranches will run up into the millions. He fattens the animals on alfalfa.

The investments of Gen. Terrazas are so large in the state of Chihuahua that he finds it difficult to find any further opportunities here for further investment. This fact has caused him to turn his attention to the City of Mexico and other cities and towns outside of the state where during the last few years he has invested many millions of dollars of his surplus capital. He owns a controlling interest in all of the manufacturing plants of the state. He is the largest stockholder in all of the banks in the state. Some of them he owns outright. His mining investments are comparatively small; he has always been cautious in going into that branch of industry. It is said that there are many rich mineral deposits upon his ranches which are awaiting development. He is a heavy stockholder in the Mexican Central and the Chihuahua & Pacific railroads. It was largely through his efforts that these two roads were built. He is also largely interested in the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient railroad. His banking operations are not confined to this state. He is financially interested in some of the largest banking institutions of the City of Mexico and other cities of the republic. The country home of Gen. Terrazas is a veritable palace. It is said to have cost \$2,000,000. In exterior appearance the residence is not very imposing. It is built on lines of architecture which are best suited to this climate. It comes next to the castle of Chapultepec, the summer home of Presi-

dent Diaz, in richness of interior finish and furnishings.

The early life of this noted man was full of adventure and tinged with romance. He was born in this city on July 21, 1859. In that early day Chihuahua was far removed from the higher civilization of the world. His parents were poor, and when they died he was a small boy and was left to fight the battles of the world single-handed. He did manual labor for several years and saved his earnings by means of exercising the most rigid economy. When he had saved a small sum he started into the mercantile business in a small way. His good business methods brought him success, but he displayed a longing for politics, and when he was barely of age he was appointed mayor or jefe politico of Chihuahua. He held that office for many years and went through many trying experiences with the turbulent element who infested this region in the early days.

It was in the month of August, 1890, that Gen. Terrazas rendered the country a service which placed him on the road to great wealth. The whole State was overrun with brigands. These outlaws murdered and robbed the people of the smaller towns and had all of the country



GENERAL LUIS TERRAZAS,  
The Greatest Cattle Owner in the World  
—Harris Photo, Chihuahua.

districts within their power. The people were terrorized and many of them fled into Chihuahua for protection. The bandit forces boldly advanced upon this city. Gen. Terrazas did not belong to the military at that very time, but he did all that he could to defend the city with the small force of troops stationed here. When he saw that further defense was useless he left the city and went to Juarez, where he established the seat of the municipal government temporarily, although he was 150 miles away from his district. Many of the inhabitants of Chihuahua fled from the city when the bandits took possession of the town.

It was this attack by brigands that caused Terrazas to enter upon a military career. He had no sooner reached Juarez than he began the organization of a large force of volunteer troops to battle with the bandits and recapture Chihuahua. In August of 1890 this army of men, led by General Terrazas, marched against the brigands. The outlaws were not only driven from the city of Chihuahua, but the relentless warfare against them was kept up by General Terrazas and his volunteer army until they were driven from the State. No quarter was shown on either side, and it meant death to be taken prisoner. Scores of the bandits were killed.

This daring and effective piece of work on the part of General Terrazas was rewarded by the government granting him a large concession of public lands. These lands at that time were worth very little, but General Terrazas kept hold of them, knowing that the time would come when they would be valuable. Soon after this exploit he was elected Governor of the State. It was not long after this that the French invaded Mexico and set up a government under Maximilian. In the war against the French, General Terrazas was placed in command of a division of the Mexican army. He was a true patriot and demonstrated his loyalty to Mexico by offering to donate for the good of her cause all of his fortune which he had accumulated up to that time. President Juarez refused to accept this offer. It is a well-known fact, however, that Terrazas spent much of his private wealth in equipping his own troops and in providing their subsistence during that war. He waged a vigorous campaign against the French, and in March, 1867, he led his army in an attack upon a large force of French troops in this city. General Terrazas's forces triumphed and the city was retaken from the invaders.

The Mexican government found that its treasury was depleted when this war was ended. In lieu of money for his services, the government paid General Terrazas in public lands. It was in that way that the larger part of the land which he now owns came into his possession. He fenced and stocked his land as his means would permit, and his business gradually grew until he became the largest cattle and horse owner in the world. The enormous revenue which he derived from his ranches year by year was invested in other lines of business and industry. He always exercised care and conservatism in

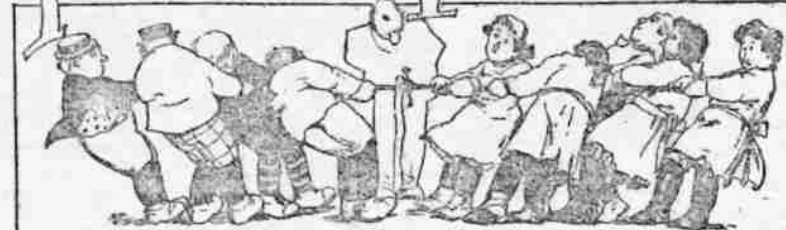
making investments. His financial ventures have all been very profitable. He has traveled comparatively little, but he is as well informed on the business affairs and conditions of Mexico and the United States and throughout the world, for that matter, as the men who make their millions in Wall street.

Mr. Creel may be said to have inherited the office of Governor from his father-in-law. General Terrazas served five terms as chief executive of this State and was succeeded by Mr. Creel. It was during the Terrazas administrations that

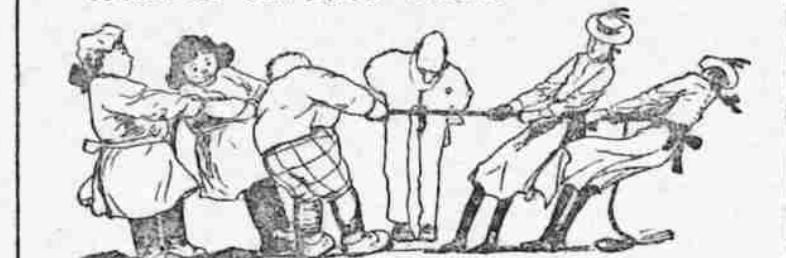
American capital first began to be attracted to Mexico. Governor Creel has broadened this policy of offering encouragement for the investment of American money in the industrial and business enterprises of the State.

General Terrazas's seventy-eight years weigh lightly upon him. He still leads an active business life. Much of his time is spent in making trips of inspection to his several ranches. His son, Manuel Terrazas, looks after many of the details of the management of his many manufacturing, banking and other industrial enterprises.

## TUG O'WAR PUZZLE



THE STOUT BOY QUARTETTE COULD TUG JUST AS STRONG AS THE PLUMP SISTERS



WHILE TWO PLUMP SISTERS AND A STOUT BOY COULD HOLD THEIR OWN AGAINST THE SLIM TWINS



The Tug O'War Puzzle.

We must, of course, assume that the Stout Boys were individually of the same strength that the Plump Sisters were alike in their pulling powers, and that the Slim Twins were as similar as two peas.

The pictures tell the whole story of their exciting tussles, so that we may tell to a certainty just how that final event came out.

The question is, which side won, the right or the left?

Solution of North Star Puzzle in Sunday's Tribune: In Professor Twinkle's North Star can be found twenty different triangles, viz:

Two large triangles, each containing nine of the small triangles. Then six triangles, each containing four of the small triangles. Each of the six points of the star forms the upper section of one of these six triangles. Finally we count twelve small triangles, so that altogether we have discovered twenty triangles.



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